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Park Row

Certified Industrial School,

BRISTOL.

CERTIFIED JUNE 10th, 1859.

1875.

BRISTOL:

ARROWSMITH, PRINTER, 11 QUAY STREET.

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Printer,
Que, STREET, BRISTOL.

The Park Row Certified Industrial School.

CHAPTER I.

This School was certified on June 30th, 1859, for the reception of such boys as should be sentenced to it under the "Industrial Schools' Act," which became law in the summer of 1857.

This Act was preceded by the "Reformatory Schools' Act," which received the royal assent in August, 1854. It had been hoped by those who inaugurated and carried on the Reformatory movement, that this first Act would prove applicable to all the miserable boys who were leading a life of vagrancy and petty theft, thus preparing ultimately to become convicts. But the Reformatory Schools were confined to those young persons only, who had received already a sentence of imprisonment. It was desired to rescue young boys and girls before they had incurred the lasting disgrace of a prison brand, but who were in a state of proclivity to crime. The establishment of Kingswood Reformatory in September, 1852, did not therefore

affect these children, and in March, 1856, Mr. F. N. Watkins, the Sheriff's Officer, whose official position brought him into frequent contact with such boys, presented a memorial to the National Reformatory Union, praying them to establish a Reformatory Ship at the mouth of the river for the rescue of such boys. He thus speaks of their condition : " In most seaport towns there are a very great number of poor unfortunate boys, who have neither home nor friends to advise or protect them, and, having no knowledge of marine pursuits, cannot get a vessel ; for this reason it is very desirable that the admission to the Ship School should not be confined to convicted children alone, but extended to such destitute boys as may be desirous to learn the maritime art. It is notorious that if a boy run away from an inland town, he immediately seeks the seaport in the hope of obtaining a vessel ; on his arrival, having none to recommend him, he fails in his object, falls a prey to hunger, and then to theft. I have known of many who have been so situated. It is distressing to witness the number of unfortunate lads wandering about the quays of Bristol during the winter months, in a state bordering on starvation, without shoe or stocking, or rags sufficient to cover them ; seeking shelter under some warehouse doorway, or *huddled together on the less side of a building, while waiting their opportunity to pilfer any article whereby they may be enabled to appease the cravings of hunger.* They know no other way to prolong their miserable existence, and if apprehended and convicted, the shelter of the prison is preferable to the open shed by day and the limekiln by night. Is it not here, then, that the work of reformation should begin, not by an imposition of the silent system, but rather by teaching

the boy how he may live honestly, and furnishing him with the means of leaving his old haunts of vice and misery?"

There was, however, at that time no law existing which would enable such boys to be placed in an institution under legal detention, and without this the worst cases could never be reached. There was great difficulty in obtaining the passing of an Act giving, under magisterial sentence, without the preliminary imprisonment, such legal detention as would withdraw parental authority, and at the same time not relieve parents of their duty to their children, thus encouraging parental neglect. These difficulties were eventually overcome, and the Industrial Schools' Act became law in August, 1857. The Schools were to be certified by the Committee of Council on Education, and need not necessarily be Boarding Schools, the children being allowed to lodge with their parents, at the discretion of the Managers of the School, who were bound only to provide for their Industrial training, and sufficient board. The inspection rested with the Committee of Council on Education, who also provided the pecuniary allowance of 3/- each a week per child.

During the year after the passing of this Act, very few of the existing Industrial Schools were certified, and very few sentenced children were received into them, the inmates being chiefly voluntary. There was considerable difficulty respecting the working of the Act. Under these circumstances, as there was no Certified Industrial School in Bristol, and great need of one existed, Miss Carpenter determined to establish one. In the autumn of 1858, Mrs. Evans, of London, a lady unknown to Miss C., hearing and approving of this object, presented £200

to enable her to commence the undertaking;—Mr. Frederick Chappell, of Liverpool, authorised her to purchase, on his account, a house suitable for the purpose, for which a low rent should be paid to him. An old house was found conveniently situated;—this is represented in the frontispiece. A few voluntary inmates were received as soon as the necessary arrangements could be made. It was certified as fit and proper for the object by Sir C. B. Adderley, M.P., who was then the Vice-President of the Educational Department of the Privy Council.

“To the Managers of the Bristol Park Row Industrial School, and to all others whom it may concern.

“The Committee of Her Majesty’s Privy Council on Education, having received an Application from the Managers of the above-named School, wherein Industrial Training is provided for the Children, and wherein the Children are fed as well as taught, and having directed Jelinger Cookson Symons, Esq., Her Majesty’s Inspector of Schools, to examine and report thereon, and having received and duly considered his Report, Hereby Certify that the said school is an Industrial School within the meaning of the Industrial Schools’ Act, 1857.

“Given at Whitehall under the hand of

“C. B. ADDERLEY, *Vice-President*,
“this 10th day of June, 1859.”

At the close of the year there were only 15 boys in the School, though the premises were capable of holding 50. Of these, 7 were sentenced by magistrates, and 8 were voluntaries. During the next year, 1860, 11 boys were admitted under sentence, and 10 voluntaries. Many of

these last were admitted at the urgent desire of a mother, who was unable to control her son, and who paid 3/-, or even 4/- a week to place him under proper protection; 2 had been found in a most wretched state of neglect and vagrancy. These became respectable boys eventually, and the other cases showed the good effect of such an institution.

Of the ten boys admitted under sentence, three were notoriously wild pilfering boys, quite uncontrolled by any parental authority: the remaining seven were neglected and morally destitute children; three of these had been in the workhouse. Most of them were in a state of profound ignorance.

In order to make the objects of the School better understood, the Mayor and other gentlemen were requested to examine the School, and then to hold a public meeting on the premises.

The first public examination of the School took place June 6th, 1860, of which the following account was given in the *Western Daily Press* of the following day:—

“ Yesterday afternoon the first inspection and an examination of the boys was made by several magistrates of this city, accompanied by a number of gentlemen and ladies who took a deep interest in the welfare of the class for whose benefit the institution is designed. Amongst those present were the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Bristol, John Bates, Esq., Messrs. O. C. Lane, C. J. Thomas, H. O. Wills, Herbert Thomas, Joseph Perry, the Rev. W. Knight, Rev. R. C. Jones, Rev. W. James, Mr. Commissioner Hill, Miss Carpenter, Mrs. Herbert Thomas, and other ladies. As many of the subjects alluded to in the first annual report of the managers are ably brought

forward in the eloquent paper by Miss Carpenter, which will be found below, we need not further refer to that document. The whole of the premises occupied by the lads were thrown open to the visitors, who could not but be deeply moved at the gratifying scenes afforded them. The gardens, both in the front and rear of the house, exhibited the most perfect order, and were filled with regularly sown vegetables, and some flowers, the appearance of which testified to the care and diligence of the youthful gardeners; while inside the building the carpenters', shoemakers', and tailors' shops and other offices had quite the air of a human hive, such busy sawing and planing and chopping and sawing were going on. The little workmen, full of interest in their varied employments, looked the picture of health and contentment, and were thoroughly clean and well-dressed. The schoolroom contained specimens of penmanship that would have done credit to far more expensive seminaries, while the eager manner in which the boys replied to the questions put to them evinced an unusual amount of interest in what was submitted to them. The entire building was throughout an example of cleanliness and regularity, which, together with the appearance of the pupils, did the greatest credit to the watchful care of the master, Mr. Arnold. In the schoolroom the boys were examined on the Ten Commandments, and sundry questions on other matters were put to them, and capital answers were elicited, though perhaps occasionally somewhat original. They sang several pieces in a very neat manner.

"At the conclusion of the examination Miss Carpenter inquired of the lads if any of them, provided they had liberty to do so, would go away? and the youngsters

shouted a unanimous 'No ma'am.' In reply to another query, they said that they were not now afraid to look at the magistrates before them.

"The Master stated that each of the boys had been sent out on errands, and had had full opportunity to go away if he desired it; and they had taken out firewood and brought back the money for it; but they never showed a wish to escape, and acted with the strictest honesty.

"The Mayor then told the little fellows it was very gratifying to all present to see them in the condition in which they were, and he hoped they would all become respectable members of society, and never revert to the bad ways in which they were first brought up. He thought there was no fear of their doing so, and trusted that all present would see them become useful and respectable men.

"As the company were quitting the schoolroom for the apartments in which the meeting was held, the boys spontaneously and with one accord wished them 'a good day!'

"A meeting was then held, under the presidency of the Mayor, and the proceedings commenced by the Rev. W. Knight reading the certificate of the school, which was signed by the Vice-President of the Council of Education, Mr. C. B. Adderley, and dated June 10, 1859. His Worship then called upon Miss Carpenter, who read as follows:—

"Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,—I should not have ventured to request the sacrifice of your valuable time in the inspection of this small school, were it not for the sympathy you have expressed with the object for which it is established, and because I deemed it right to invite your exami-

nation of the progress made by the children whom you have yourselves committed to our care. I hoped, too, that your own attention being drawn to the subject, you might devise means for making the school more extensively useful to the city. You would probably hardly recognise in the scholars you have just examined, the young boys who appeared before you on the Bench, ragged, wild, and miserable. You have seen them at the present time orderly, well-conducted, and happy, gaining useful instruction, which they now know how to value; and you have witnessed the fruits of their industry, proving that they have not only been diligently employed, whereas they were formerly spending their time in idleness, but have been taught skilled labour, and are preparing, at a fit time, to become respectable members of society. Nine boys were sent here by you; the six others who were not sent by the magistrates, but received as volunteers, were in an equally untaught, and, with one exception, wild condition. Two only of the whole number were without any parental care; the larger proportion were under the charge of a mother only, who being obliged to toil for her daily bread, had no means of exercising due control over the boy; the others, from various causes, were quite unmanageable in their homes, and were leading a lawless life. It was not, then, as an act of charity that these boys were received into the school, but to rescue *them* from a life of vice into which they were falling, and *society* from the burden which, as criminals or paupers, they would be to it. Now, though it is true that the object is not here to save money, but to save the *child*; yet, happily, however, it is true economy to save the child. Viewed in the light of merely worldly advantage, a few children

rescued from a long career of depredation and vice amply repay a long expenditure. Viewed in the light of eternity, no money cost can be counted too great to save even one never-dying soul from perdition; and to this glorious end does God often largely bless the judicious expenditure of earthly means. But it was not simply to rescue a few children, important as that object is, and worthy of much sacrifice of time and means, that this school was established. It was to carry out the wise intention of the legislature to put a greater check than has hitherto been done upon juvenile crime, by arresting 'vagrant, destitute, and disorderly children' before they became criminal, and making 'better provisions for their care and education, by the extension of Industrial Schools.' I quote the words of the title of the Act. And it was proposed to do this by combining magisterial authority with private benevolent effort, this last kept in check by inspection by the Committee of Council on Education. We now know that these 'vagrant, destitute, and disorderly children' exist in great numbers in Bristol, especially the latter, who are often outlaws from the various schools, and permanently infest the streets, causing great annoyance to the regular attendants at the schools, besides growing up themselves in vice. Numbers of young outlaws infest the very vicinity of the Ragged School in St. James's Back. Mr. Turner, the excellent master of the Redcross Street British School, at a recent meeting of the Western Union of Teachers, complained of the bands of such children who haunt the whole vicinity of his school, and exercise an injurious influence on his scholars; other teachers, in different parts of the city, made the same complaint. The police are well aware that

there are many gangs of juvenile thieves existing in the city, who are continually luring on to their own destruction the 'idle and disorderly children.' This school contains only nine of these, and it might hold fifty."

Miss C. then adverted to the difficulty which existed in bringing these children under the operation of the Act, and thus placing them in the School under legal detention.

After remarks from various gentlemen, the Mayor stated "that he was sure the Bench would do all they could to send boys to the School, for nothing could be more advantageous to them and to the city generally. He thought it important that the parents should be compelled to pay towards the maintenance of those in the School."

Mr. Commissioner Hill, in moving his resolution, made important remarks in answer to the objections which had been made to these Schools. "Their promoters," he said, had always been met by an objection extremely plausible, and which had no doubt a foundation in truth. It was said, 'If you pay so much attention to a child either because he has done wrong or because you see symptoms that he is about to do wrong, and put him in a house of this kind; if you supply his bodily wants; still more, if you give him education and attend to his spiritual wants, don't you give a premium to wrong-doing?' That was the argument which naturally arose in every mind, and which had been placed before Miss Carpenter and himself times out of mind as the great stumbling-block. But facts had shown how little practical weight there was in that argument. It began by assuming that which was a fallacy, namely—what was good, and to the real, substantial, permanent advantage of the individual, would operate as a temptation to him. But it was no such thing. Those

who had the management of Industrial Schools and Reformatories knew that the first great difficulty was to induce the children to stay in the Schools; and the pains of hunger, or cold, or want of clothing, and so on, although he felt them actually at the time, yet he valued the liberty of wandering about and doing his own will more than he disliked those occasional hardships. Hence it never had been found that the Reformatory or the Industrial School had operated on the mind of a child so as to make him say, 'Now, I will do something wrong, and then I shall get into this school.' It might operate on the mind of the parent. All felt this, and they struggled hard, especially in 1852, when he and Miss Carpenter were examined before a committee of the House of Commons, in reference to inserting a clause in a bill making it imperative on the parent when he had the means to contribute towards the support of his child. (Hear, hear.) The difficulty they had to make the gentlemen who were chosen for their great and surpassing wisdom to represent them in Parliament apprehend that very simple proposition, Miss Carpenter would recollect, he was sure. They, however, succeeded, and in the present bill Mr. Adderley, their great support, had adopted the principle, and introduced the clause into the Act. Therefore there was no temptation held out to persons to do wrong in order that their children might be brought into the school."

"Mr. Turner, of Redcross Street School, stated that a very large number of boys who should be in Industrial Schools were to be found in the neighbourhood he laboured in. In reply to Mr. Commissioner Hill, he said he should esteem it a great boon to have a school of the sort established near him.

"Mr. Commissioner Hill then moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding.

"The Rev. W. Knight, in seconding it, said the boys were brought to his church, and there was no part of his congregation more orderly and attentive.

"Mr. Herbert Thomas said it was due to his Worship and the Bristol magistrates to say that they had sent more children to Industrial Schools than justices in any other locality where such an institution existed.

"The Mayor briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the meeting separated."

In March, 1861, the Industrial Schools were transferred by Act of Parliament to the Home Department, receiving 5s. per week from the Secretary of State, instead of 3s. which they had previously received from the Committee of Council on Education.

As the School appeared now to be placed on a permanent basis, Miss Carpenter requested a number of gentlemen and ladies to form a Committee, and to undertake the management of the Institution, she herself continuing to take a share in it. The Committee was formed in May, 1861.

CHAPTER II.

The gentlemen and ladies into whose care Miss Carpenter intrusted the future development and management of the School resolved themselves into a Committee in May, 1861, having approved of the general intentions and objects of the School, and the principles on which it was founded. The Committee consisted of a Chairman, Herbert Thomas, Esq., J.P.; Hon. Treasurer, Arthur Wansey, Esq.; Hon. Secretary, William Lant Carpenter, Esq.; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Carpenter; together with six gentlemen and six ladies, with power to add to their number. Two gentlemen were to be nominated monthly to visit the School, and give such general advice and supervision as may be needed, and two ladies to superintend the domestic management and care of the house linen, one retiring each month. The general system of the School was as far as possible under the circumstances that of a family, of which the Master and the Matron, his wife, were the head. In all respects the welfare of the boys and their individual development, physical, intellectual and spiritual, should be made the primary object; and care of them should not be limited to the period of their detention in School, but should extend to their entrance in life;—they should on leaving the Institution be placed whenever possible in a suitable situation;—supervision should still,

be exercised over them, and help given occasionally when needed.

About three hours daily should be devoted to intellectual instruction, before breakfast and after tea, when undivided attention could be given to it; great attention would be required to this, as in such Schools boys are frequently admitted in a state of profound ignorance. From six to seven hours should be occupied in industrial work. In the selection of this, choice should be made of such occupations as would develop their physical powers, call out their intelligence, and give them such aptitude in the handling of tools and knowledge of common things, as would be useful to them in whatever position of life they may be placed. Hence the boys were not to be taught trades; these they might never wish to exercise, and they might even be injurious to them on leaving School, by offering them an inducement to settle in the town rather than locate themselves in the country. Every boy should learn while in the School so much shoemaking and tailoring as to enable him to repair his own clothes. All should in turns learn household work under the superintendence of the Matron, and washing and mangling their own clothes and the linen of the Institution, under the direction of the laundress. Gardening and wood chopping would give active exercise to all. Baking and a little carpentering and painting the premises should be done by the older boys. Care should be taken in the distribution of the work that each boy should have active work during half of every day. The dietary should be plain but good, and sufficient. The influence and moral control of the Master and his Assistants should pervade the establishment. Family worship, with the reading of the Scriptures

and the singing of a simple hymn, should be conducted by the Master. The religious instruction should be simple and practical, great care being taken to make the boys well acquainted with the Scriptures. The boys should attend the Parish Church every Sunday, that being the nearest place of worship available. Such was the general system of the School.

For the guidance of the boys the following rules were printed :—

“ The boys who come to this School must remember that they do so in order to enable them to be honest and industrious members of society in this world, and to prepare them for another and a better. To effect this, the labour and care of their instructors will be of little avail unless they also use their own earnest efforts to improve themselves, and endeavour at all times to obey God’s Commandments, ‘ not with eye service, as men pleasers, but as fearing the Lord.’ ”

“ In addition to the laws of God which are contained in His Holy Word, every boy is required to attend strictly to the following Rules :—

“ I.—Every boy on entering the School is to begin with a new character; he must as much as possible forget the evil of his past life, and on no account ever converse with his companions respecting any of the circumstances attending it.

“ II.—No boy must on any consideration go out of the premises without permission.

“ III.—Strict obedience must be paid to the Master, Matron, and Teachers; respectful attention to superiors, and kind consideration to companions.

“ IV.—All irreverent use of God’s name, low and

vulgar language, slang words and nick names, are absolutely forbidden.

“ V.—Order, neatness and cleanliness, are especially to be attended to ; ‘ a place for every thing, and every thing in its place,’ being the rule of the house.

“ VI.—Diligence and activity in the work appointed are expected from all ;—‘ Diligent in business, serving the Lord.’

“ VII.—Great care must be taken of the property of others, and of every thing used in the School. Wilful or careless waste or injury of the School property must be paid for from the boy’s earnings.

“ VIII.—The boys must possess no money without the knowledge of the Master, who is to take charge of it. They may spend it under his direction, and he will keep an account of it with them.

“ IX.—No books, pictures, or papers of any kind are to be introduced into the School, nor are any letters to be sent or received, without the permission of the Superintendent.

“ X.—Whoever knows that these, or any other rules laid down, are broken, must inform the Master of the same ; if he does not do so he becomes himself an accomplice, and is besides doing injury to his companion by encouraging him in evil.”

The premises had already been considerably modified and a new schoolroom built. The house was now adapted for about fifty boys. An additional garden had been purchased by Miss Carpenter, and this the Committee rented from her, considering gardening a very important

part of the industrial occupation. At the conclusion of the first year of their management the Committee presented to the subscribers the fourth Report of the School, from which the following extracts will give an account of its general condition:—

“There were in the School, December 31st, 1861, 42 boys, viz.—

Under Magisterial sentence	...	...	...	23
Voluntary inmates	...	...	...	19
Total	...	...	...	42
Admitted under sentence in 1862	...	...	...	18
Voluntaries	...	...	...	3
				—
Total	...	...	...	21
Total on the books in 1862	...	...	...	63
Sentenced boys discharged	...	...	...	2
Voluntaries left	...	...	...	11
				—
Total	...	...	...	13
Remaining in the School Dec. 31, 1862,—				
Sentenced	...	...	...	39
Voluntaries	...	...	...	11
				—
Total	...	...	...	50

“Of the 21 boys admitted in 1862, the following was the educational condition:—

None	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Little	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Fair	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
										—
										21

“The parental condition is as follows:—

Both parents living	...	...	...	...	...	13
Father dead	...	...	...	...	...	5
Mother dead	...	...	...	...	...	1
Both dead (voluntaries)	...	...	...	...	...	2
						— 21”

“Six only of the boys admitted under sentence during the year were from Bristol, the remaining twelve were from six other towns at a distance.

“Two of the voluntaries are orphans, whose friends are paying for them at the School; the other was admitted under false representations, and was shortly dismissed, the promised payment not having been made.

“Of the two sentenced boys who were discharged at the expiration of their term, one emigrated to Canada, the other has obtained a good situation in London.

“Of the voluntaries who have left,—two absconded; one was dismissed as above; five were withdrawn by their parents; one emigrated to Canada; one was apprenticed to the sea, through the kindness of a member of the Committee; one obtained a good situation in a gentleman’s family in the country. The two boys who emigrated to Canada at once obtained situations. They received, before going, testimonials from the Rev. W. Knight, whose kind sympathy with the School, as shown on this and various occasions, the Committee gratefully acknowledge.”

The testimonial of the voluntary boy was as follows:—

“I have this day examined J—— B——: he reads fairly, though not fluently, writes very well, and is capable of working sums in compound multiplication. He has also a fair knowledge of the chief facts and principles of the Christian religion, and appears, from

conversation which I had with him, to be a well-disposed youth."

This boy had been a miserable wanderer in the streets before he was admitted into this School, and had received no education but what he obtained by occasional attendance at a Ragged School. He settled steadily on a farm in Canada, and before long sent back £5 to enable another member of his family to join him.

"The general system of the School has been the same as in previous years. The morning before breakfast and the evening after supper are employed in School, thus securing between three and four hours daily for intellectual instruction. That considerable attention should be paid to this will appear evident, from the extremely neglected condition of the boys on admission. Considerable effort is made to overcome the first difficulties of the most backward boys, thus enabling them in as short a time as possible to take a pleasure in the acquisition of knowledge. A valuable stimulus is given to the elder boys by a weekly lecture given by one of the Committee on some interesting and useful subject, bearing on their future work in life, and this is often illustrated by experiments. The intellectual improvement of the boys was considered as satisfactory by H. M. Inspector, Rev. Sydney Turner, on the occasion of his official visit, who made the following entry in the visitors' book:—'Sept. 11.—Inspected the School. Very well satisfied with the progress of the boys, as well as with their general manner and appearance.'

"The Industrial occupation of the boys engages a considerable part of the day, between six and seven hours a day being devoted to it. Owing to the extreme youth of

many of the boys, however, little remunerative labour can be expected from a large number of them, especially as the development of their physical powers and healthy out-door exercise are made a primary consideration in the selection of work. There has been, however, a fair profit derived from the different departments, and the varied nature of the work admits of its adaptation to the powers and capabilities of the individual boys—thus best preparing them for their future work in life. Gardening and other out-door work about the premises always occupy a first place in their employments, but as yet there has been so much to be done to bring these into proper order that no profit has been realised. Carpentering has been chiefly directed to the repairs and alterations of the premises, and as these have been charged to the Treasurer, a profit appears of £10 5s. 11d. This profit is also partly due to the manufacture of wooden buckets, which has been introduced with success. The Baking department has been kept up with much advantage, and the number of out-door customers having increased, the profit is £41 15s. 10d. Shoemaking has realised £18 0s 8d.; and Wood-cutting £10 1s. 1d. From the out-door work of the boys beyond the premises, the sum of £3 3s. 9d. has been received. The Tailoring department is confined to making and repairing the clothes of the boys, and there is consequently no profit. It is hardly necessary to state that the religious and moral training of the boys occupies a prominent place in the whole system, and on this point also they are happy to have the approbation of H. M. Inspector. Healthy recreation is considered a valuable auxiliary in the education of the boys. To promote this the Committee have sacrificed a portion of the garden, which has been

converted into an excellent playground, where the boys can amuse themselves with active games. This is also an excellent place for drilling, in which one of the members of the Committee has kindly exercised them for half an hour every morning, much to their advantage.

"These different departments of the whole system have been carried out with activity and zeal by the master, Mr. Langabeer, who, with his wife, took charge of the School in March last. The moral tone of the School has greatly improved under his care: the boys are happy, and work with cheerfulness and obedience; they are evidently in harmony with their master, while they yield him a respectful obedience. There is every reason to hope that when the new comers have become more accustomed to the tone and discipline of the School, very great improvement will be perceptible. * * *

"It will be observed that most of the boys who have been admitted this year are under sentence, and that most of those who have left are voluntaries. These have generally gone through their own act or that of their parents, without reference to their being in a fit position to do so. This strongly confirms the necessity, which has been felt from the commencement, of placing such boys as really require the discipline of the School under legal detention, in order that they may not leave until there is a reasonable probability of their doing well. Hence we discourage the reception of voluntaries, unless under very peculiar circumstances, even when paid for by friends. Nor is this School intended as an eleemosynary institution, to take children simply on the ground of destitution, which should be relieved by the parish or by private charity. Numerous applications for admission have been

made on this ground for boys who were unmanageable by their parents. We have not encouraged these cases, nor allowed such children to beg at the School in order to be sentenced by the Magistrates. The intention of the Act was to check habitual vagrancy, and to save young boys under twelve from incurring a prison brand, by sending them to an Industrial School, if their offences could not be checked by parental chastisement. This will, we trust, be eventually the general rule with respect to young pilferers and other offenders who are now sent to prison. That the principle of the Act is becoming extensively recognised, is most satisfactorily shown by the list of places from which boys have been sent. In all these cases, and, indeed, in all who have been received into the School, this seemed the last resource after all others had been ineffectually tried."



CHAPTER III.

The Park Row Certified Industrial School now appeared to be established on a settled basis, and at the close of the year 1863 the Committee had the satisfaction of finding their School full and in an efficient condition. The Rev. Sydney Turner was able to make the following entry in the Visitors' Book, after his annual inspection:—

“ I find the premises much improved by the addition of the new playground and garden. The Institution appears to be in very good order. The boys have passed a very fair examination, especially the first class, in cyphering and dictation.”

The amended Act of 1861 had remedied some deficiencies in the original one; among others it provided for cases which had often presented themselves, in which parents who were in circumstances to maintain their children were unable to control them. In such cases fathers earnestly entreated for admission to the School, but without legal detention this, in such cases, was perfectly useless. One boy indeed had been admitted of such a character, having previously absconded from another School. He very shortly left this, and no power existed in the managers to recover him; he was shortly found in prison. A clause to meet such difficulty had been inserted in the new Act:—

“ Any child apparently under the age of fourteen

years whose parent represents that he is unable to control him, and that he desires such child to be sent to an Industrial School, in pursuance of this Act, and who at the same time gives such undertaking or other security as may be approved of by the Justices before whom he is brought, in pursuance of this Act, to pay all expenses incurred for the maintenance of such child at School." Several cases were received under this clause with great advantage.

This Act was however an experimental one, the principles on which it was founded not having yet been fully recognised by the Government. Its duration was limited to January 1st, 1864, and the Committee felt that the time was come for permanent legislation. They therefore presented the following memorial to the Government:—

"To the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

"The Memorial of the Managing Committee of the Park Row Certified Industrial School, Bristol,

"SHEWETH,

"That this School having now been established nearly seven years, the Committee feel that they have ground for believing that the intentions of the Government in granting the *Industrial Schools Act* (of 24th and 25th Vict., cap. cxiii.) have been fully realised, and that success is attending the working of it in arresting incipient crime, and training young vagrants to be useful members of society.

"Also that the principle on which it is founded is becoming extensively recognized in various parts of the country, as shown by the numerous applications for the admission of boys from a distance.

“They therefore pray that this Act may be made permanent.

“They also beg respectfully to suggest the following alterations and additions:—

“In section 9, clause iv., the addition of the words ‘or Guardian’ after the word ‘Parent,’ because instances have come under the notice of your memorialists of young persons left to the care of relations and friends being excluded from the benefits contemplated by the clause, which is one that your memorialists deem of the utmost importance.

“The omission of the clause according to which parents, whose children are sentenced under clause iv., make their payments for the maintenance of such children to the School authorities, instead of to the Government as in all other cases.

“The addition of a Licensing Clause, giving power to Managers to place inmates in situations away from the Institution, on trial, before their final discharge, still retaining a legal hold over them, —the period for such license being left to the discretion of the Managers.

“The addition of a clause permitting a portion of the County or Borough Rates of any district to be employed in meeting the expense of offenders sent to these Certified Industrial Schools, as is at present the case with Reformatories.

“Your memorialists would also beg respectfully to mention, that when this Act becomes permanent the necessity for sending to prison young boys or girls under fourteen

years of age will no longer exist, since, as the law now stands, they may be given over to parental correction, and if such parental authority as can suitably administer it does not exist, they can be sentenced to an Industrial School, or in case of graver offences to a Reformatory.

“Your memorialists believe that a prison brand once affixed to a young person is an injury for life, and they therefore pray that a clause may be added to the Industrial Schools Act, making it unlawful to send to prison young persons under fourteen years of age, except as a preliminary to a Reformatory.

“And your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

“Signed on behalf of the Committee,

“HERBERT THOMAS,

“Chairman.

L, December 15th, 1865.”

The Act passed in the summer of 1866 at last placed the School on a permanent basis, and remedied existing defects.

At the close of the year a very satisfactory examination of the School was held, and the graphic account of it in the papers showed that the Institution was beginning to engage public interest and attention.

SAVED FROM THE TREADMILL.

(Western Daily Press, Dec. 14, 1866.)

“A merry, healthful-looking lot of youngsters are the lads at the Certified Industrial School, in Park Row! The visitor who goes there with the anticipation of seeing some sixty faces with the stamp of ‘vagabond’ on each will be delightfully disappointed. No beetle-brows—no

‘foreheads villainously low’—no ferretty eyes—no sly, dishonest looks will he see; nothing but open, pleasant, smiling countenances, as good looking as those of lads far better off as regards this world’s wealth. And are these glowing-cheeked, bright-eyed urchins the refuse of the street—the worst of the city Arabs? They have been. From dirty neglected haunts in the lowest parts of the city many of them have often wandered about the quays—“loafing” away their existence—carrying on a system of petty pilfering—clad in rags—friendless, almost homeless, joyless, except in freaks of wanton mischief—with no hopes, no purpose, nothing to live for, nothing to die for! And yet how bright and happy-looking they are now. We saw them on Thursday, although not for the first time, and truly the sight made the heart glad. It was a sort of ‘field day.’ There were many visitors, who inspected the premises, saw the lads at work, and then passed resolutions at a meeting, by which the condition of the school is to be made better. There were magistrates present—not so many as we should have liked to see—and his Worship the Mayor, Mr. E. S. Robinson, as chief magistrate of the city, and as an earnest practical philanthropist, came in his official capacity, but with his big human heart all alive to the claims of these little rescued waifs and strays of the gutter and the alley; and he did right nobly did our Mayor, for he gave a handsome subscription to the funds. We give below a report of the speeches at the meeting, but now a few sketchy sentences about what we saw may be *apropos* to the occasion.

“First of all we went into the bakery, where a little man who said he was the ‘foreman’—bless us! what a tiny foreman it was—spruced out in his baker’s apron,

and looking so sharp and smart and business-like, had the command of the department. Then there were journeymen as big as the foreman himself, and very nearly as sharp-looking, and they examined the crusty loaves which had come from the oven, gave connoisseur-like glances at the outsides, knew all about their being a trifle overdone, and shook their little heads so wisely and with so much importance, that we wondered at the shrewdness—the great practical intelligence — of these Liliputian tradesmen. Three lads are employed at this department on alternate weeks, and the profit on bread-making alone amounts to something like £35 a year. Quitting the realms of dough we ascend the stairs, and after taking a peep at some boys busily engaged in folding up clothes which have been washed and dried, proceed to the shoemaking room. There they are again—a busy animated group, all working away with might and main, one cutting out the 'uppers,' another forming the soles, one waxing his 'end,' a fourth joining together the various parts, and others helping to finish off the work in its many branches. We should be glad if our fashionable bootmaker, who, utterly regardless of our damp feet and consequent bronchitis, insists upon making boots warranted to get wet through in an hour, would just take a few lessons at the Park Row Industrial School. These lads make boots which can surely never wear out. They must last for ever, so stout, and strong, and well made are they. Bravely done, little boys ! Such work you may well be proud of, and so may that cheerful-looking Mentor of the craft, who instructs so skilfully, and toils so deftly, and sticks so energetically to his last. Shoemaking, a goodly trade to teach these youngsters. They will be first-class hands some day ; and (who knows ?)

perhaps some of them will quit the last—will forget or ignore the *no sutor ultra crepidam* motto—and will turn out great and clever men, as many other shoemakers have done before them: to wit, Bloomfield, the author of the “Farmer’s Boy;” Bradburn, one of the presidents of the Methodist Conference; Gifford, the great critic and classical scholar; Samuel Drew, metaphysician; Pounds, the founder of Ragged Schools; Lackington, the fortune-making bookseller; Carey, who went as a missionary to India; Fox, the founder of the Society of Friends; and Thomas Holcroft, author of the “Road to Ruin.”

“There are other trades taught at Park Row. Some of the boys are transformed into tailors. They are not much more than the ninth part of men as it is, but all honour even to that fractional part of humanity who can make and mend all his own clothes. Their busy needles are plied right vigorously, and they are seated cross-legged on the ground working away, with a grown-up “ninth part of a man” in their midst to teach them. All is economy in this as in other departments. Nothing is wasted. There is not even such a thing as ‘cabbage,’ for every scrap is turned to account in some way or another. From the workshops we return downstairs and proceed to the yard, where a lot of lads are engaged cutting up wood. Between £30 and £40 a year is cleared upon this branch of the industrial occupations. The whole cost of the establishment is in round figures £1,000 a year; out of which the Government allowance is £750. About £100 a year is obtained by subscriptions; and £150 by the profits upon the industrial work, of which the wood-cutting and shoe-making are the most paying branches. From these amounts it will be seen that the average cost of each boy

(there being 60 boys) is between £16 and £17 a year. This by the way. The wood-cutting is worth stopping for a moment to look at. Some of the boys saw the logs up into moderately-sized pieces, some of them split these pieces into sticks, and some of them tie the sticks into bundles. It is astonishing how rapidly this last-named operation is performed by the youngsters. They take up a handful of pieces, press them together, and tie them dexterously round with string in a twinkling. Such busy little bees they are.

"After the company had inspected the workmanship, they went to the dormitories, where each tiny bed was so nice and clean, and where the floors were so polished with scrubbing, that a king might have slept there—had he been a little king. Then they saw the kitchens and the other apartments; and everywhere this same cleanliness was observable—everywhere the same order. Then the boys were drilled, and having gone through their movements with precision they adjourned to the schoolroom. Having sung a hymn (such a sweet, warbling chorus of trebles it was, with nothing harsh or discordant about it), the master examined them. First of all they read from a book in which lots of hard words tumbled up here and there, and then they spelled these words, and in all cases accurately, without the books. Geography and mental arithmetic came next, and we were fairly astonished when twenty hands were instantaneously held up, intimating that their owners could tell how much eight articles at 4*½*d. an article came to. It isn't a difficult sum; but one hardly expected to find these urchins, who so long had been neglected, answering it with such readiness.

"The Rev. Canon Knight then asked them some ques-

tions on religious subjects, to which they replied sensibly. We give an example or two :—

Q. Why did Christ come on earth ?
A. To save sinners.
Q. For what purpose will He come again ?
A. To judge the world.
Q. What have we to do here ?
A. To be ready for Him.
Q. How are we to be ready ?
A. By doing what is right.
Q. Can we do this by ourselves ?
A. No, sir.
Q. How are we to get the power ?
A. By asking God's grace.
Q. What are we to pray for ?
A. Forgiveness of our sins.

“ These are the spontaneous answers of boys varying from nine to fourteen years of age, written just as they were spoken, and carrying with them convincing evidence that the little fellows are learning something more than that animals with back-bones are 'vertebrate,' and that those without back-bones are 'invertebrate'—two facts for which a miniature forest of hands was held up.

“ Mr. Knight spoke very favourably of the behaviour of the boys in church, and said he had every reason to be satisfied with them. He called them “ his dear boys.” The poor lads had never heard such words of kindness before they went to the school. Curses were in many cases the customary presents they received from those around them. ‘ My dear boys ! ’ How kindly, and cheerily, and affectionately these words fell from the good pastor's lips. What a ring of common humanity, of true

Christian charity there was in them ! That simple sentence may have a far greater influence for good than ever its speaker dreamt of. Let us hope so.

“ We were greatly pleased with this visit and what we saw at the Industrial School. Mr. Langabeer, the master, does his duty by it nobly, and the managers are more than satisfied with his labours. What a great thing it is to know that the ragged wretched creatures who roam about the streets, learning with fearful aptitude the ways of vice, may be checked in the downward path to ruin, be placed in one of these valuable institutions, fed, clothed, educated, and taught a useful trade, watched carefully after they have quitted it, and in nine cases out of ten—perhaps even more than that—literally snatched from a whirlpool of misery and guilt, and by gentle, kindly monitions and goodly counsel ‘ saved from the treadmill’—and may be from worse than that.”

A full report of the examination appeared in the *Press* and the *Post* ; the graphic account of the Institution already given renders this unnecessary, but part of the leader in the *Post* may be here copied, as showing how great an advance in public opinion had already taken place.

From the “Bristol Daily Post,” December 14th, 1866.

“ We do not, we feel sure, claim too much for the Certified Industrial School system when we assert that it has already gone a great way towards clearing our great cities and towns of the numerous urchins—the vast tribes of Street Arabs—that used to infest them. Nay, we may assert with quite as little chance of contradiction, that it is

preparing hundreds, we believe we may say thousands, of the rising population who would otherwise have been left to pursue careers of idleness and profligacy, in courses of honest industry; instructing them in useful descriptions of labour; inculcating in them habits of self-dependence and self-restraint; storing their minds with wholesome moral and religious teaching; fitting them, in fact, to become profitable to themselves and acceptable members of society. This, perhaps, is saying a good deal, but it does not, we feel assured, exceed what is capable of being proved to every one who will be at the trouble of looking into the question closely. Of those who attended the examination of our own Park Row Industrial School yesterday, numbers, we are satisfied, must have come away from that excellent institution deeply impressed by some such views.

"Another thing which the Industrial School system does—and it is that which has led to our penning the present remarks—is to teach parents that they may not with impunity shirk the duties which they owe to their offspring. How frequently has the public mind been horrified by disclosures of cruel and almost murderous parental neglect. Of fathers and mothers squandering their means and time in drunkenness and dissipation, whilst their children were left destitute of food, fire-warmth and clothing; pining, in fact, in nakedness, hunger and filth. The laws regulating Industrial Schools, if put fully in force, meet this revolting state of things. If the parent abandons his obligations towards those to whom he has given being, the State may step in and supply his place. Nay, more than this, the State can compel him to contribute from his own means, to the extent of his ability, towards the expenses which it undertakes, in order to train,

educate and feed his children. When the Reformatory and Industrial Schools were first proposed many well-meaning persons feared that they might be found aggravating the evil they were intended to cure, by inducing parents purposely to ill-use their children, and it might be to force them into crime, simply with a view of getting themselves relieved from the cost and responsibility of supporting them. And probably if some safe-guard had not been provided this might have been the case. As the law stands, however, fathers do not get quit of their liability, and unless in the case of utter inability they cannot get quit of it. If they will not pay from their earnings their property is assailable, and if owing to drunken, wasteful, or improvident habits they do not gather around them in their homes sufficient goods to meet the distress warrant when levied, then they may be sent to goal and be compelled to pay in their persons. The case heard before our magistrates on Wednesday gives warrant for all we have said. A mason named Charles Martin having neglected three of his children, they were seized by the strong arm of the law, two as long ago as 1863 and one last year, and were subjected to that wholesome control and teaching which he had failed to provide for them. At the time of their committal to the Industrial School, he undertook to contribute a something towards their maintenance, but this he failed to do. Natural affection would not seem to have been very strong in him, and having got rid of their little mouths from around his table he probably thought that he had done a good thing for himself, that society would take care of his offspring, and he be left with some shillings more per week to spend in beer or in personal indulgences. The Secretary of State

took proceedings against him; the magistrates finding that he was earning good wages ordered him to pay 2s 6d. per week for each child, and unless he does so he will as surely find himself safely lodged within the walls of Mr. Gardner's rigidly-disciplined establishment as his name is Charles Martin. We are glad to find it stated by Mr. Williams, of the magistrates' office, that 'he had received instructions from the Secretary of State to take proceedings against the fathers of several other children who had in like manner neglected to contribute towards their support in Industrial Schools.' The mere knowledge that such a law exists has already greatly diminished the number of glaring cases of neglect of offspring, and the social good which must flow from such prosecutions could hardly be over estimated."

Provision was made in the Consolidated Industrial Schools Act for throwing some of the expense of these Schools on the local rates. This was a principle which had always been regarded as very important by the originators of the Reformatory movement. It was especially necessary in the case of these Schools, since the urgent need of them arose from the condition of the city, which left uncared for children in its streets. The Committee required therefore the payment of 1/- per week for all boys who were admitted from a distance, but had not at first asked for it from Bristol. The time appeared to have arrived however when this grant should be given also from our own city in addition to that of 5/- per week allowed by the Treasury for each sentenced boy. The following memorial was therefore presented by the Committee to the Town Council:—

“The Managers of the Park Row Certified Industrial School for boys beg to memorialise the Town Council of Bristol that a grant may be made to this School under authority of Act 29th and 30th Victoria, cap. cxviii., sec. 36.

“The memorialists represent that the object of this School is to prevent children from falling into criminal habits, and thus becoming very costly to the borough, as well as to the country at large, by rescuing such as are without due parental control and show tendencies to crime, from the temptations which surround them, and by giving them such an education and training as will fit them to become useful members of society. That this object has been attained is shown by the fact that only three per cent. of the boys discharged from this School, since its foundation in 1859, have been convicted of crime. It has been ascertained that since the establishment of schools of this class, eight years ago, there has been a sensible reduction in the amount of juvenile crime in this country ; and Her Majesty’s Inspector, Rev. Sydney Turner, M.A., in his annual report to the Home Secretary, upon Certified Industrial Schools, dated May, 1866, says :—

“From a careful observation of the operation of the Industrial Schools’ Act (of 1861), I feel justified in saying that few measures have been adopted by which more good has been effected by simpler machinery or at a lighter public cost.’

“The memorialists further represent that the Industrial Schools’ Act, 1866, shows that it was the intention of Government that Prison Authorities (among whom were specially mentioned the Councils of Boroughs) should contribute towards the establishment and support of such Schools.

"That for a considerable time, whenever a boy has been committed to Park Row from any other place than Bristol, a contribution has been required and readily made from that place towards the boy's maintenance, thus leaving Bristol as the only place from which such a grant has not been made; and that yet notwithstanding, the Managers have frequently declined to take in boys from a distance, for whom they would have received additional payment, in order to make room for Bristol boys, considering them to have more special claims.

"That the principle of these grants was affirmed by the Town Council of Bristol at their meeting on March 26th, 1867, when, with only one dissentient, a grant was made to the Clifton Industrial School for its enlargement and maintenance, and a contract entered into for the reception of children at one shilling per head per week.

"The Managers of this Boys' School represent that they have been unable to raise sufficient voluntary funds to carry out the objects of the School in the complete manner contemplated and demanded by Government; and they therefore pray that a capitation grant of one shilling per head per week may be made to them for all boys committed by the City Magistrates.

"June, 1867.

"(Signed)

MARY CARPENTER	ARTHUR H. WANSEY, <i>Treasurer</i>
WM. LANT CARPENTER, <i>Hon. Sec.</i>	BLANCHE WANSEY
LEWIS FRY	MARK WHITWILL
WILLIAM TERRELL	MARY WHITWILL
CAROLINE H. TERRELL	WILLIAM HENRY WILLS
HERBERT THOMAS	ELIZABETH WILLS
MARY THOMAS	ANNA WORSLEY
JAMES DAVISON WADHAM	

"This memorial met with a very ready response at the hands of the Town Council, who kindly granted the sum asked for, and at a full meeting on September 24th, 1867, the following resolution was *unanimously* passed :—

"That this Council, acting as the Prison Authority, do contribute a Capitation Grant of one shilling a week for each boy committed to such School (the Park Row Certified Industrial School for Boys) by the Justices of this city and county, such grant to commence from this date."

In order to keep a more regular supervision of the boys after their discharge than could otherwise be done, without withdrawing the officials of the School from their duties, the Committee engaged the services of Mr. Grant to undertake the duty and report to them monthly; his long experience in such work rendering him peculiarly fitted for the office.

The Committee, however, have to lament the dangers which beset young boys on their discharge, and earnestly ask for more pecuniary help in this direction. They "reiterate their firm conviction that a large portion of the good done in the School will be lost, unless provision is made to assist, and in some measure to look after, a boy on his discharge, on account of his age and strength being, in most instances, too small to permit him, for a year or two at least, to earn his entire livelihood. Few fathers among the working classes require their sons to support themselves entirely as soon as they become 14 or 15 years old, but they give them some assistance either in board, lodging, or clothes; and yet this is the age at which many boys are discharged from this School without any home to

go to, except such as is provided for them by the Committee. In cases of this kind the auxiliary cottage in St. James' Back has been found extremely useful, and the influence of the out-door agent (Mr. Grant) has been exercised to great advantage, and he has also pursued his task of visiting, and befriending when in trouble, boys who have been discharged, and of finding situations for those about to leave the School, with great zeal, perseverance and kindness during the past year. In disposing of the boys on their discharge, the Committee are obliged to find situations for the greater number, owing to their friendless condition, and occasionally they do all they can to keep a boy who may have friends from returning to a bad home. That they are justified in doing so is shown by the fact that out of 30 boys placed in employment by the Committee during the years 1864, 1865, and 1866, 25, or 83 per cent., are known to be doing well, and not one has been subsequently convicted of crime; while of those eight boys who returned to their friends during the same period, only 37 per cent. are doing well, 25 per cent. have been convicted of crime, and 13 per cent. are of doubtful character; the remainder in both cases having been lost sight of." These results after a work of eight years must be regarded as satisfactory.

The system adopted and the manner in which it is carried out have elicited warm commendations from visitors not only from our own country, but from distant parts of the world, especially from India. Surprise and admiration have often been expressed by the Indians at the care given to the training of those who in their own country would have been regarded as the refuse of the population.

"Among them was the celebrated Parsee judge, Manockjee Cursetjee, Esq., of Bombay, the impression made upon whose mind may be gathered from the following;—

"*November 20th, 1867.*—Here is a noble Institution, noble in its conception, noble in its object, and noble in its effect. Those who have conceived it, designed it, carried out its object and watched its effect by God's blessing, deserve commendation. Let their inward satisfaction be their own reward, next to pleasing their Maker, the master, the conceiver, the designer and helper of and in all and everything. May His name ever be blessed!'"



CHAPTER IV.

The general condition and results of the Industrial School system were a special object of inquiry when the Social Science Congress was held in Bristol in the autumn of 1869. The Committee then requested their Secretary, Mr. William Lant Carpenter, to prepare such an account of their School as should answer such questions. The paper possessed a permanent value which entitled it to a permanent place in the records of the School. It is as follows :—

THE RESULTS OF INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

“ The Park Row Certified Industrial School, Bristol, was founded by the indefatigable exertions of my aunt, Miss Carpenter, assisted by pecuniary resources provided by the kindness of several of her friends, and it was one of the first schools to be certified under the Industrial Schools’ Act. A reference to the official list of these schools will show that of the fifty-seven English schools in operation on December 31st, 1868, only five received their certificates prior to this one, which was certified on June 30th, 1859. For three years after this Miss Carpenter continued to manage the School unaided, but in the spring of 1862 she associated others with her in the work, and an influential Committee was formed (to which I was appointed Honorary Secretary, and have since continued as such),

which has given very close and unremitting attention to the management.

" As the Committee have seen with pleasure that in some respects the results of this School have frequently been above the average, they venture to think that some account of their experience may be useful, especially as their Secretary is frequently consulted by letter from various parts of England on this very subject.

" In the early days of the School, and indeed for some years after it was certified to receive boys under magistrates' order, there was so little true knowledge of the provisions and objects of the Act, that it was with the utmost difficulty that magistrates could be induced to send boys under detention, and it was therefore at that time necessary to make a beginning with voluntary inmates, who were entirely fed, clothed, and lodged at private expense. Some months indeed, elapsed before a single boy was sentenced to the School. Gradually, however, the number of such boys increased, and at the time the Committee undertook the management there were rather more sentenced than voluntary inmates, partly owing to the fact that the funds of the School could not maintain many of the latter class, although there was ample room for them.

" It was soon found that the presence of the 'voluntaries' exercised an effect the reverse of beneficial upon the boys under detention; owing to their knowledge that the master had no legal hold over them, absconding cases were very frequent, and this produced a very restless feeling, and a sense of inequality, if not of injustice, among those lads for whose safe-keeping the Committee were responsible, so that one of the first decisions of any

importance come to by this body was, not to admit any more voluntary inmates, even when fully paid for by private charity, except under very peculiar circumstances. Although it was considered at the time by Her Majesty's Inspector and other good authorities that the School thus became too much like a Reformatory, the Committee adhered to this course, and they notice with pleasure, in confirmation of the view then taken, that according to Her Majesty's Inspector's last report (pp. 18, 22), in Scotland and in many large English towns the proportion of voluntary inmates in these Schools, which was large, is rapidly decreasing. It is believed that the licensing clauses of the Act, empowering managers to place boys in situations before the expiration of their sentence, still retaining a legal hold over them, gives in a far better mode, precisely that intercourse with the outer world, which was contemplated by the admission of voluntary inmates, in addition to other important advantages.

"Although this School has been established so long, there are many others which have at present, and have had since their foundation, a much larger number of inmates. It need scarcely be said that it might have been twice as full, had the managers thought it desirable to enlarge the premises, or to remove to more spacious ones, either of which might have been done. They felt, however, that by doing so, they would lose the family element in the School, the preservation of which they regard as of the utmost importance. Though it is highly probable that scarcely any of the poor lads committed to their care have felt the advantage of this in their homes (seeing that out of 107 boys committed from 1864 to 1868 inclusive, only fifty-six, or little more than half, had both parents

living, and forty-four only one), the Committee unanimously felt that the true way to influence them for good was by individual action upon each boy, through the master, who should study his character and endeavour to guide it, as a father might that of his son; and that, while the boys were neither humoured nor pampered, they should have their feelings and wishes consulted. This can only be done with a limited number, and we are of opinion that from sixty to seventy boys is about the largest number that can be kept under such individual influence by one superintendent, and that, for example, two such separate Schools will do more good than one large School with 120 or 130 boys.

"The duties of matron, also, are much more readily performed by the master's wife alone with this smaller number of boys, and she is the more able to give a mother's aid and sympathy to those who seek it. Should she have young children of her own, and be able and willing to allow some of the boys to assist her in taking care of them, the effect upon those who are so trusted is extremely beneficial.

"This family feeling is further fostered by making the older and better boys exercise an influence upon new comers, by encouraging them to do little services for one another, to assist in nursing a sick boy, to take charge of the youngest and most helpless among them, to feel an interest in the institution and all its belongings, by allowing all to share in any unexpected pleasure or treat, &c. In this way new comers, placed in charge of some of the older boys, who are generally proud of the trust, rapidly fall into the routine of the School duties, and speedily become "one of the family."

"Each boy, too, receives a certain small allowance of pocket-money, given as a reward for work done, which accumulates in the master's hands, and of which he is taught to keep an account. From this fund he is expected to pay for breakages, &c., and to provide, as far as he is able, any little indulgencies for himself, with the master's permission.

"The training that our boys receive naturally divides itself into industrial, and, for want of a better word, scholastic. The former comprises gardening under the master, tailoring and shoemaking, under two assistants, washing and mending clothes, baking bread, and firewood cutting. Only in the last two employments is any work done to yield a direct profit to the School, the clothes and shoes made being for the inmates' use only. Baking is an employment in which, under good supervision, the boys succeed very well, and in the year 1868 as much as £312 gross was received for bread baked by the boys. Firewood chopping and bundling affords capital work for the little boys on their first admission, and its delivery in Clifton and the neighbourhood gives good exercise for the elder lads, as well as trains them to the use of bills, receipts, &c., and to receive and account for money, upwards of £290 gross having been received in 1868 from this source.

"One great object of the industrial training being to make each boy a handy lad, so that, when thrown on his own resources, he can earn an honest livelihood, and help both himself and others, each individual boy goes through every industrial class in rotation, and thus, though of course some boys show special aptitudes and inaptitudes for certain work, every boy has, on leaving the School, a

general notion of all these things; those boys who have emigrated or gone to sea specially feel the advantage of this varied training.

"The scholastic training does not occupy more than three to four hours daily, early in the morning, and after tea in the evening. The assistant master has the chief charge of this, aided by a system of mutual instruction among the boys. Several of the elder lads compete in examination with lads from other poor schools in Bristol for scholarships of £5 each, yearly offered by trustees of one of the Bristol charities, and have always hitherto done so with success.

"With respect to the general health of our boys, it gives me great pleasure to be able to state that it is exceedingly good. Many of them come to us, of course, in a miserable plight, sickly, and with tendencies to various diseases, some of which are hereditary. Since its foundation we have had only one death in the School, and very few cases of serious illness; and it is frequently remarked that a wonderful physical improvement occurs in poor, weak, stunted lads, in a comparatively short period. Our Honorary Surgeon attributes much of this to the regular food, cultivation of outdoor exercises, drill, gymnastics, &c., as well as to the constant and careful supervision of the master, whose motto, both in moral and physical diseases, is 'prevention is better than cure.'

"In connection with the general system of training it may be well to mention that, while the friends of boys are allowed to visit them on certain days, it has been found necessary to prohibit boys from visiting their friends at their homes during their term of detention, except in very rare and special cases. Our experience has been, almost

without exception, that the effect produced upon a boy, by the revival of all his bad associations during such a visit, is such as to materially interfere with, if not to destroy, the result of months of training.

"The Committee, however, have found it very desirable to occasionally make some pleasant departure from the usual school routine, and to send the boys, under proper supervision, to some place of rational amusement, such as a panorama, or similar exhibition, a conjuring performance, or well-conducted circus; or, in the summer, to some country spot, where new scenes and recreations give a healthful change to their usual currents of thought. The good effect of this upon the general demeanour of the boys is constantly noticeable, and the privileges thus granted are much appreciated, and have never been abused.

"It is scarcely necessary here to point out the great desirability of boys being sentenced to long terms of detention. It by no means follows that a lad remains in the School for the whole period, the reverse being usually the case, but it enables managers gradually to relax their legal hold over boys, by sending them out into situations under the licensing clauses. As soon as we began to discharge boys, in the early history of the School, we felt the need of some such provision, and, accordingly, in 1865 we sent a memorial to the Secretary of State, inviting also the co-operation of every industrial school then established, in which we respectfully urged, among other things, the insertion of such licensing clauses into the new Act, which eventually became law in 1866.

"Our boys are first sent to work for a portion of the day only, in shops, private houses, &c., the rest of their

time being spent at the School, where they continue to take their meals and sleep; the next step is to place them out in some situation on license, which is revoked if they misconduct themselves, which rarely happens however, and eventually their term of sentence expires, and they continue in their situations as though no change had been made.

"While the machinery and mode of training thus described is so entirely different from that of a prison, the knowledge that there is a legal hold over the boys, and that they will be captured if they run away, has a most deterring effect upon absconders. This is aided by imposing a small fine upon the whole School when any lad does run away, by which a sense of mutual responsibility is excited among the boys, which has an excellent moral effect. Since the establishment of the School, only two sentenced boys have absconded without being recaptured, and a year frequently elapses without any attempt at desertion being made; even by new comers, with whom there is the most trouble in this respect.

"As so many boys, at their final discharge, are homeless and friendless, it was found necessary to provide a sort of home for those who were at work in Bristol, where they could live and be boarded cheaply. In many cases it is necessary to supplement their wages for a year or two, as they are not generally old enough to support themselves, but the utmost care is required in giving this assistance, lest they should depend too much upon that and not upon their own exertions. The supervision of those boys who have left, as well as the finding of situations for those about to leave, is under the direction of a special officer, or children's agent, who combines these duties

with others of a like nature for similar institutions in Bristol. The Committee find no difficulty in disposing of boys on their discharge, except in a pecuniary sense—the expenses of outfit, and of partial maintenance for some time being considerable, and unless assistance of this kind is given, boys are in many cases liable to return to their old habits, and all good effects of the school training are lost. Our experience has taught us that it is not a good thing to apprentice the boys to a trade. It is seldom that such apprenticeships have succeeded, partly owing to the want of parental authority to which the master can appeal—partly to want of power to manage the boys on the part of the masters themselves, who are generally small tradesmen, and partly also to the inherent restlessness of the boys themselves. A large number of our boys go to sea, and lately several have emigrated to Canada and the States, some of whom, under the supervision of the agency of Mr. Van Meter, of New York, are doing extremely well.

“ Such being our principles of action, it may be of interest to note a few of the results that have been obtained. According to Her Majesty's Inspector's Report for the year ending 1868, the average per centage of boys discharged in 1865, 1866 and 1867, who were reported as known to be doing well, was 53 per cent. Our figure for the same period was 73 per cent. The average per centage returned as unknown was 34 per cent. Our figure is about one-half that, or 18 per cent., and, with an average of 6 per cent. convicted of crime, our figure was 4 per cent., or two-thirds of that.

“ Results like these enable the conductors of Industrial Schools to appeal with confidence to the public for sympathy

and encouragement, and it is worth noting, as showing the appreciation of the good effects of these Schools by the magistrates of this city (who some few years ago could hardly be induced to commit any children to Industrial Schools), that out of 175 boys under sixteen apprehended by the police in Bristol between January 1st and June 30th of the present year, one hundred and twelve were discharged, twenty-seven were sent to prison, twenty-four to an Industrial School and twelve to a Reformatory.

"With respect to cost, I am decidedly of opinion that the Treasury allowance, the profit on the industrial work, and the borough allowance of 1s. per head per week should be quite sufficient to cover all expenses for inmates in a well-managed School. The primary expenses of establishing it must of course be defrayed by voluntary effort, but after two or three years' work the above statement should hold good. It does not include, however, the expenses attendant on the discharge of a boy, or necessary assistance subsequent to that. For this purpose private help is in all cases wanted.

"On one point our Committee feel very strongly, viz., the necessity of compelling the parents of these lads to contribute more largely to their maintenance. We are well aware that the Treasury allowance will be diminished exactly in proportion as this is increased, but we regard the matter as of great importance, since it fixes the consequences of a child's misbehaviour upon its parents, and are therefore of opinion that, should the cost of collection be equal to, or ever greater than the amount collected, the attempt should be made as a matter of principle. Without the enforcement of some such provision, a father who

did not care for one of his children might allow, or even oblige him to commit some slight offence which would render him liable to be sent to an Industrial School, where he would be maintained entirely at the expense of the country, and all parental obligations would be avoided for some years if not for ever."

CHAPTER V.

The Park Row Certified Industrial School appeared now thoroughly established, but the Committee did not rest satisfied without rendering every part of the premises as perfect as possible. The high estimation in which the School was held led to the admission of a larger number of inmates than could be accommodated without undue crowding. It would have been possible to obtain possession of some adjoining premises, and to double the size of the School, but it was felt that such a proceeding would entirely destroy the family character of the Institution, which had been an important element in its success. The original number of fifty boys had gradually increased to seventy, but so large a proportion of these were very young boys, that they were not too many to be under the management of so experienced a master as Mr. Langabeer. It was therefore determined to enlarge the dormitories by an addition to the house, and thus render them airy and thoroughly ventilated. A convenient cottage was also rented at the other end of the garden to which boys could at any time be removed in case of an outbreak of infection. This Hospital Cottage has only once been employed, but its existence is felt to be a very valuable guarantee of the health of the Institution. Additional workshops had been built to secure active occupation for the boys in bad

weather. Another garden adjoining their premises had been rented, and a larger play ground made by the sacrifice of a portion of their former garden. The premises were now in a very complete state; the old house, with its multitude of small rooms, was wonderfully transformed since the purchase of it for the School, and yet its unique character and individuality remained, and impressed the boys with a feeling towards it which they carried to distant lands, recollecting with affection the "dear old house."

The idea of a Reformatory Ship, which had been started by Under-Sheriff Watkins, and which, indeed, had been present to the minds of the founders of Kingswood Reformatory in 1852, had not been lost sight of, and now that a ship might be certified as an Industrial School, and the Government were willing to grant disused ships for the purpose of thus training young boys for a sea life, such a scheme appeared feasible. Some members of the Committee gave serious consideration to the possibility of such an undertaking. It appeared at that time beyond the scope of their present work. The eleventh Report of the School, however, states the accomplishment by others of what they had so greatly desired:—

"Few things connected with Industrial Schools have given the Committee greater pleasure than the establishment, during the past year, of the Training Ship *Formidable*, now moored at Portishead Roads, near the mouth of the Avon, and certified under the Industrial Schools' Act. They have long felt that there was great need for increased means of carrying out the provisions of the Act. This School has long been fuller than they considered desirable (having due regard to the important

principle of keeping up the family element), and they were constantly obliged, most reluctantly, to decline to receive boys from a distance. They watched with deep interest the untiring exertions of the promoters of the establishment of the Training Ship, and now congratulate them heartily on the accomplishment of their labour of love, and wish them God-speed in the continuance of it. As soon as the vessel was ready to receive boys, nine lads were at once transferred to her from this School, and were the first to be received on board. As the managers of the *Formidable* intend to confine the admission to lads above twelve years old, and also to limit the duration of their stay to a shorter period than usual in Industrial Schools, it is obvious that there are many boys under the provisions of the Act who could not be admitted on board her, and for whom, therefore, the Schools in Bristol will still be available."

The Committee still directed their attention to the importance of enforcing a greater amount of payments towards the expense of their children, from parents whose neglect had imposed so heavy an expense on the country. In May, 1869, the following memorial, signed by the responsible managers of all the Certified Industrial Schools in and near Bristol and Bath, was forwarded to the Home Secretary:—

"MAY, 1869.

"To the Right Hon. H.M. Secretary of State, Home Department.

"SIR,

"We, the undersigned managers of Reformatory and Certified Industrial Schools in Bristol and the neighbourhood, beg to draw your attention to the importance of obtaining a larger amount of payments for the mainten-

ance of children detained in these Schools, from the parents and guardians of the children themselves.

“ Although we are aware that increased amounts obtained in this way will make no difference in the income of our Schools, we feel the matter to be one of constantly increasing importance; 1stly, for the sake of the effect upon the parents themselves; 2ndly, as an actual saving of public money, even though the cost of its collection may be a large per centage on the amount collected. Our experience shows us that occasionally parents connive at, or even encourage, their children in rendering themselves liable to conviction under (more especially) the Industrial Schools’ Act, for the sake of being relieved from the cost of their maintenance and training for a term of years. Although an order for payment is sometimes made on the parent, we have observed with much concern that it is not unfrequently evaded, and that too often the practical operation of the present system here is, and has long been, that those who are willing to pay, do pay, but that those who are unwilling to pay, but ought to pay, do not pay, and it is needless to observe that these are the very persons who ought to be *compelled* to contribute.

“ We therefore beg most respectfully to ask whether some better means can be adopted for enforcing these payments. The Certified Industrial Schools’ Act is already extensively in operation here, and will shortly receive a still wider application by the establishment of a training ship in this port.

“ At Glasgow and at Liverpool there are special agents in constant communication with H.M. Inspector, whose chief duties are the collection of these payments, and we feel convinced that if such a person were appointed here,

to be employed either for the whole or part of his time, the total amount of the payments would be very largely increased.

“ Trusting that you will give the matter your favourable consideration,

“ We remain,

“ Your obedient Servants,

“ Here followed the signatures of the managers of all the Reformatory and Industrial Schools in and near Bristol.”

Although the request for a special agent was not granted at that time, the Treasury allowed H.M. Inspector to make a larger allowance towards the cost of collecting these contributions, and H.M. Inspector arranged with the Superintendent of Police in Bristol for a more strict enforcement of the provisions of the Act in this respect.

It now seemed that the legislation respecting the Certified Industrial Schools was established on a sound basis, and that they were safe from any danger which might arise from alterations in our Act. Mr. Forster's Education Act of 1870 transferred the local grant which had been made by the Town Council to the School Boards, which should have power to make such grants, and also to establish Certified Industrial Schools when needed, but the institutions were to remain as before under the Home Office. The Right Hon. Sir C. B. Adderley proposed, however, to move an amendment, by which these and Reformatory Schools should be placed under the Educational Department and the School Boards. It appeared to the Committee of the School that such a change would be highly detrimental to the object of these Schools, and the system adopted in

them. They therefore drew up the following memorial, setting forth their reasons against the amendment:—

“To the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

“The memorial of the undersigned Managers of Certified Industrial Schools,

“Showeth,

“That your memorialists have been informed that an amendment has been proposed by Sir C. B. Adderley to clause 27 of the Elementary Education Bill now before Parliament, for the purpose firstly, of legalising the admission of *day-scholars* to Certified Industrial Schools, and secondly, of transferring the control and supervision of these Schools from the Home Office to the Education Department.

“Your memorialists, whilst heartily concurring in that part of the amendment which proposes to increase the action of Certified Industrial Schools under the School Board, by the appointment of a special officer to enforce the provisions of the Act, believe that both the above changes would be highly injurious to the Schools under their management, and they therefore beg respectfully to draw your attention to the following objections to the amendment.

“(1.)—ADMISSION OF DAY SCHOLARS.

“The experience of your memorialists has been that the proper training of the young persons committed to their care under secs. 14 and 15 of the Industrial Schools' Act, 1866, can only be carried on satisfactorily by completely excluding them from all their former bad associations, and your memorialists, reasoning in many cases

from past experience, firmly believe that the contact with day-scholars, who would return every evening to scenes of wickedness, would so revive these associations from which it was intended to withdraw them, as to neutralise, in great measure, the good home influence of the Master and Matron upon those children whose whole time is spent in the School, or under influences approved by the managers.

“ Your memorialists beg respectfully to say that, in their opinion, the education of such neglected children would be best effected by the establishment of separate Day Industrial Schools, such as now exist in Edinburgh, Aberdeen, &c.

“ (2.)—TRANSFER OF CERTIFIED INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS
FROM THE HOME OFFICE TO THE EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT.

“ Your memorialists believe that, under the present supervision, the Certified Industrial School system has worked very satisfactorily, and that throughout the country there is a tendency to consolidation of the system, which would be materially retarded, especially at this period of its growth, by *any* alteration. Their experience is that *no penal stigma* attaches itself to the future of any young person who has been educated and put forward in the world from their Schools; no difficulty has been found in obtaining a good outlet for their services, and in many instances, children so trained are preferred by employers to others of whom they have no knowledge.

“ To the proposed change your memorialists object on the following grounds:—

“ The whole system and machinery required for the proper development of the Industrial School System is

totally different from that required for a purely Educational System. Though intellectual instruction forms an important part of it, there are other departments of equal or even of greater importance which, not coming within the sphere of an Educational Inspector, might, and probably would, be disregarded by him. The Schools would be likely to suffer from an undue attention to intellectual training, experience having shown that, with children of such a class, the time required for their physical development and for the inculcation of those habits of truth, honesty, morality, independence, &c., which are attained by the Industrial training, is very considerable.

“ Your memorialists also consider that the funds for the maintenance of children in Industrial Schools would not come appropriately from an Education Department, and that it would be impossible to separate the cost of the intellectual education from the other charges.

“ Commending these views to your favourable consideration, your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

“ A copy of this was sent to every similar School in the United Kingdom, together with a request for immediate co-operation. Action of the same kind was simultaneously taken by the Lancashire Schools, and hearty promises of support were received from a very large majority of the Schools throughout the country.”

A deputation was sent up from the managers of similar Schools in or near Bristol, joining a deputation which had been organized by the Reformatory and Refuge Union, in order to urge the Home Secretary to oppose Sir C. B. Adderley’s amendment from his place in Parliament. They assigned the following among other reasons for their request :—

“ I.—Because the power of legal detention of inmates

granted to the managers by the Secretary of State draws a clear line of demarcation between Certified Industrial Schools and the ordinary Elementary Schools for poor children.

“II.—Because moral discipline and the inculcation by industrial training of the desire to earn an honest livelihood, are the primary objects of these Schools, while under the Education Department intellectual culture would necessarily be the most strongly insisted on by the Inspectors.

“III.—Because the greater portion of the income of Certified Industrial Schools is expended in the *maintenance* of the inmates, and such funds, which under the present Act are derived from the Treasury, could not consistently be drawn from the Education Department.

“IV.—Because the standard of intellectual acquirement in Certified Industrial Schools must necessarily be so much lower than in ordinary Elementary Schools, from the previously neglected condition of the children, and especially of those committed above ten years old, that if they were judged by the standards in use under the Education Department, and the same system of payment on results were applied, the income of the Schools would be enormously reduced.

“V.—Because Certified Industrial Schools are emphatically not prisons or penal institutions. Your memorialists know by experience that the argument that the stigma of being *penally educated and criminally treated* attaches itself to the future of children brought up in these Schools is *entirely fallacious*.

“VI.—Because the contributions from Local and School Rates in aid of the support of Certified Industrial

Schools are made in accordance with the long-recognised principle, that each district should bear part of the costs of its own crime, or tendency to crime, and because the recent action of the Government has diminished the Imperial contributions in order that the local ones might be increased.

“VII.—Because under the present arrangement and supervision the Certified Industrial School System has worked very satisfactorily, while the machinery required for its proper development is totally different from that required for a purely educational system, and in the opinion of your memorialists no valid reason has been assigned for any change.”

On May 10th a long debate upon the question took place in the House of Commons, when the motion of Sir C. Adderley was opposed by Mr. Melly, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Candlish, Mr. Talbot, Mr. Cave, and by the Home Secretary on behalf of the Government, and it was eventually put and negatived.

At the request of the Reformatory and Refuge Union, some statistics were compiled in June last for the information of the International Prison Congress held in London in July. From these it appeared that the total cost of this School from its foundation in April 1859 until the end of 1871 had been about £10,500, of which £7,600 had been contributed by Government (a small portion of which had been recovered from parents, &c.), £775 by Town Councils, School Boards and other Prison Authorities, £1,660 by voluntary contributions, the remainder being due to the profits on the industrial work of the boys. During the same period 230 boys had been admitted under order of detention, and about 50 others. Of the former

157 had been discharged—and of these 77 had been placed in good situations, 28 had been assisted to emigrate, 23 had returned to their parents, and only 6 had been subsequently convicted of crime.

It was hoped that no further dangers from changes in the arrangements in the Home Office would threaten our School, after all its long efforts which had hitherto been brought to a successful issue. But though care had always been taken by the Bristol Magistrates not to avail themselves of the Certified Industrial Schools except in cases evidently intended by the Act for the establishment of these Schools in some parts of England, and especially in the Metropolis, it appeared to the Secretary of State that an undue use of them had been made which required some check. This had particularly been the case since the School Board Agents had made special efforts in London to clear the streets of children who could not be induced to attend School.

The Committee thus spoke on the subject in their Report for 1873 :—

“ There are two points, however, in connection with the present administration of the Industrial Schools’ Act of 1866, and of the Elementary Education Act of 1870 (so far as it affects Certified Industrial Schools), to which the Committee wish to draw public attention. The first one relates to the proportion which ought to exist between the imperial and local contributions for the maintenance of children in Industrial Schools. At one time the imperial contribution (from H.M. Treasury) was 5/- per child per week irrespective of age, but in April, 1871, this amount was reduced to 3/- in the case of children under ten years of age. In both cases any contribution levied from the

parent was so much *in relief of*, and not *in addition to*, the Treasury payments. There are good grounds for believing that this is only a step towards the reduction of the allowance to 3/6 per week for boys of all ages—especially as this is already the case with Schools certified after March 31, 1872. The reason assigned for this reduction is the opinion of Parliament and of the Home Office that local contributions, partly voluntary, but chiefly from the Prison Authorities and School Boards of the district, should form a larger portion than hitherto of the total cost of maintenance, each town and county bearing, therefore, more of the cost of its own crime or tendency to crime. One result of this is seen in the sum of £2,680 : 12 : 1, which appears in the account of the expenditure of the Bristol School Board for the three years of its existence, an amount which, it may be remarked here, has not been paid simply for the 58 children who were committed to Industrial Schools during that time, but in continuation of the payments previously undertaken by the Town Council of Bristol (acting as the Prison Authority of the city) for a large number of children who, when the School Board was first elected, were already in the five schools to which payment has been made. In connection with the question as to whether some, at least, of the results of the Certified Industrial School system cannot be attained with less expenditure, and also as showing the opinion upon the operations of the Bristol School Board of a man of wide experience over England, the following paragraph will be read with interest, it is extracted from the Sixteenth Report (1873) of Rev. Sydney Turner, H.M. Inspector of Reformatory and Industrial Schools, p. 21 :—

• ‘It is with great satisfaction that I note that a

memorial has been recently presented to the Education Department by the Bristol School Board, recommending the adoption of the system of Day Industrial Schools for the instruction and management of the arab classes of our juvenile population. The representations of the Board have very strong claims upon public attention, for in no large town or city has the Education Act been carried out with more ability, fairness and success than in Bristol. I have little doubt that their experience of the real difficulties of the question would be supported and confirmed by those who have really studied and tried to grapple with it in all our great centres of population.'

" The second of the points referred to above, relates to the maintenance of children committed at the instance of their parents, who are unable to control them (sec. 16 of the Industrial Schools' Act of 1866). For such cases the Treasury allowance is only 2/- per week (sec. 35, loc. cit.), and it was the opinion of many Industrial School Managers that as this was so small, any contributions from parents ought to go to the school funds *in addition to* and not *in relief of* the Treasury payment. On this subject a long correspondence passed between H.M. Inspector and this Committee, which only resulted in a declaration that the view of the matter taken by the School managers, though very natural and desirable, was untenable according to the wording of the Act. It only remains, therefore, for the Committee to take this opportunity of expressing their very strong opinion that this interpretation of the Act is likely to render that section of it practically inoperative, since 2/- per week, even supplemented by a School Board allowance (usually 1/-) is quite insufficient for the maintenance of such children, unless special voluntary aid is

given, and unfortunately refractory children who *have* parents to look after them, are the least likely objects of voluntary sympathy."

Happily, however, no further changes have as yet taken place. We may therefore conclude this brief sketch of the history of the Park Row Certified Industrial School with a few particulars gathered from the last two Reports.

While the boys are at school, acts of kind sympathy are frequently directed towards them by gentlemen and ladies under whose notice they have been brought by their out-door work. In the fifteenth Report of the School,—

"The Committee acknowledge with thanks the great kindness shown to the boys by many friends of the School, among whom they would name Rev. W. Knight, M.A., Mrs. Norris, of Clifton, Miss C. H. Buchanan, of London, Mr. Webley, hon. secretary of the Chrysanthemum and Fruit Show Society, and also the Society for the Distribution of Scripture Truth. They also wish to make special mention of the constant kindness of Mr. F. P. Lansdown, the hon. surgeon, of whose skill in preventing, as well as in curing sickness, they are very sensible—nothing beyond slight cases of indisposition having occurred during the year. To the watchful care of Mr. and Mrs. Langabeer, also, part of this happy result is due, and the Committee can hardly speak too highly of the zeal with which they have continued to throw themselves into all the duties of their office. In this they have been well seconded by Mr. Edwin Chaffey the assistant master, by James Hawker the resident industrial assistant and shoemaker (formerly a boy in the School), by the tailor instructor, and others."

The boys have usually an annual invitation to tea and recreation from Mrs. Norris, the Secretary, and other

friends. During the summer they have generally a day's ramble with the Master once a month to some of the interesting features of the neighbourhood. Though considerable freedom is allowed on these occasions, yet the signal for reassembling is always promptly obeyed, and no attempt to abscond has ever been known of. These holidays are found to have a beneficial effect on the tone of the School.

With respect to the nature of the Industrial work carried out, the Committee have uniformly regarded the welfare of the boys as their object, not any pecuniary benefit to be derived by the Institution. Hence they decidedly object to the employment of machinery to aid in wood chopping, whereby they might obtain double the profits, but the boys would lose much active and useful physical training. Nor would they think it right to introduce mat-making, brush-making, or other similar trades into the School. A very small per centage of the boys would follow such trades in after life; the time employed in learning them would therefore be wasted, without their having the benefit of varied physical training, or mental development.

The care of the boys and interest in their welfare after they leave school has been steadily continued by Mr. Grant, who reports of them every month to the Committee. As many of the boys have very unsatisfactory homes, the Committee have gladly availed themselves of the Workman's Hall and Boys' Home, St. James's Back. There they can obtain a comfortable home at a small weekly payment, under the supervision of Mr. Grant. Once a year the Committee have there invited the old scholars to a supper provided for them. Many of them give substan-

tial evidence of doing well in the world. A few words of useful advice are tendered to them by some of the Committee; letters from former schoolfellows now in America are read, and a very pleasant evening is spent. Some who are already married are allowed to bring their wives and children with them.

Very satisfactory accounts have been received from the boys who have emigrated. These are derived partly from their own letters, in which they frequently speak of one another, and partly from the Rev. George Rogers, late of Bristol, but now of St. John's, New Brunswick, to whose care the majority of them have been sent. The Committee desire to return him their best thanks for the admirable way in which he has supplemented their efforts to give the boys a fair and fresh start in life. There is quite a little colony of them at Kars, King's Co., N.B., and smaller ones in the United States, at East Shelburne, Mass., North Woodstock, Conn., and New Jersey. It is exceedingly pleasant to notice the excellent *esprit de corps* which evidently exists among them, as well as the vivid recollection of their school days, and thankfulness for the kindness shown to them. In justification of these statements, as well as of their emigration policy, which is sometimes called in question, the Committee refer the reader to extracts from some of the letters received during 1874, which are to be found in the Appendix.

In conclusion, we may quote, as giving a clear idea of the actual position of the School, a leading article in the *Bristol Daily Post*, of Feb. 26th, 1874, which was founded on the report just issued:—

“The issue which has just been made of the fifteenth annual report of the Park Row Certified Industrial School enables us to review another year's operations of an insti-

tution which, although carried on without the least approach to ostentation, is pursuing, we venture to believe, a career of as real usefulness and fulfilling a mission of as genuine philanthropy as any of which this 'city of churches and charities' can boast. 'Children,' said the philosopher Locke, many generations ago, 'generally hate to be idle, and the care is that their busy humour should be constantly employed in something of use to them.' It is on this wise axiom, or, at any rate, on the truth which it proclaims, that the exertions of the conductors of the Park Row Certified Industrial School are based; it is to carry it out to its ultimate promise of good that their efforts are directed. Boys who would otherwise be hanging about the street in idleness, useless to themselves, a terror to those around them, and in constant peril of drifting into the channels of positive crime, are taken hold of before the generous impulses of their natures have been entirely deadened or distorted, and are placed in circumstances in which, by the influence of sound precept and good example, they are coaxed, so to speak, into a course of remunerative industry, and fitted to take their share in the great battle of life. Those who happen to live near the School, or whose avocations may lead them frequently into its neighbourhood, will have little need of an official report to assure them of its value. They must have striking proofs of that value placed constantly before them in the little companies of Industrial School boys in the streets, carrying on some of the various remunerative operations in which they are trained to take part. If they will carry back their memories for a few short years, so as to be able to compare the present condition of the youngsters with that which used to mark the street Arab classes from which they have been gathered—cleanliness for filth, tidiness for

rage, cheerful faces for anxious ones, and habits of order for those of turbulence, obscenity, and vice ; and if they will consider for a moment that the magician whose wand has accomplished so great a change is none other than the Industrial Schoolmaster, they will, we think, have been brought a long way towards a belief in the excellence of the Industrial School system. For our own part, we are often struck by the sturdy energy, the evident willingness, and the soldier-like discipline and regularity with which the youngsters pursue their avocations, in hauling timber, sticks, manure, and other commodities to and from the school buildings.

" We learn from the report of the Committee that at the close of 1872 there were under detention 78 boys. One of those had absconded, and five were on license ; but the number remitted to the care of the directors of the School was that named. During the year 1873 fifteen more were admitted under magistrates' order, six of whom were sent at the instance of the Bristol School Board. The parental condition of those fifteen boys, the report tells us, ' was a sad index of their condition, and forcibly illustrated the result of want of parental control.' Their educational condition is also described as having been very low, six being utterly ignorant, four knowing only a little of their letters, and the remaining five being only able to read ' a very little.' The number of boys discharged from the School during the year was eleven. Ten of them emigrated, and the other returned to his friends in Bristol. Besides the number finally discharged, eight have been placed out on license. The Committee find it necessary, they state, to exercise the greatest care in the disposal of a boy on his discharge, and often spend a considerable sum upon him so as to prevent the good impressions made on

him in the School from being afterwards effaced. 'As a proof,' says the report, 'that their efforts in this direction have been tolerably successful, they would draw attention to the fact that this is the *fourth* year in which they have been able to return 90 per cent. (and upwards) of those discharged in the three years preceding that in which the return was made, as 'known to be doing well,' while the average for all the Industrial Schools in the country for the three years—1869, 1870 and 1871—was only 71.8 per cent.' The use of the word 'tolerably' in connection with such a statement strikes us as bespeaking an excess of modesty. So large a percentage of good might have been fairly referred to, we think, in more triumphant terms. Further on in the report we find it stated—'Several of those who have gone to sea for a few years have then settled down as young men into steady habits on shore, while those who have emigrated (35 out of the 75 discharged in the last five years) have been able at once to earn their own living, and many, if not all of them, are now in a far better position than if they had remained at home.'

"Glancing at the routine operations of the School, we gather that the industrial pursuits we have more than once had occasion to notice in connection with it are still followed. The receipts from firewood chopping, baking, the garden, boys' work, and pig keeping have amounted during the year to £892 17s. 10d., and have been earned at an expenditure of £629 10s. 7d. It would be a mistake to estimate the value of the boys' labour by the mere money profit which it yields. It is encouraging no doubt to know that the training operations, so far as they are themselves concerned, are pursued at what, in business, would no doubt be deemed a satisfactory percentage of profit.

It should, however, be borne in mind that the industries followed constitute a great feature in the teaching operations of the School ; that they accomplish the end to which the Somersetshire philosopher pointed, and employ 'the busy humour' of the youngsters 'in something of use to them.' Every pound which the boys earn represents some lesson of labour which is far less profitable in the present than it is likely to be in the future, imparting to them as it does ideas of self-dependence, suggesting new thoughts as to the value and productiveness of industry, and, in short, preparing them for the duties which, when manhood has been reached, they must, if they wish to hold their heads up in the world, be prepared to undertake. Fire-wood chopping and gardening and pig keeping and baking may not be regarded as skilled labours, but they are a thousand times more elevating than vagabondising. They help, moreover, to encourage and develop habits of industry, diligence, regularity, and application, and they will serve, where the intelligence is equal and the will all right, as the rudiments of more important branches of industrial occupation.

"We can conceive no purpose to which a draft from the national exchequer could be more usefully devoted than to the support of institutions which pluck, so to speak, brands from the burning, and convert the urchins—from whom the ranks of the dangerous classes of the country are recruited—into useful members of society."

AUGUST 14TH, 1875.

APPENDIX.

LETTERS FROM AND RESPECTING EMIGRANTS, RECEIVED DURING 1874.

From The Rev. George Rogers.

THE RECTORY, SPRINGFIELD, N.B., *Aug. 17, 1874.*

* * * The industrious are never out of place here; the farmers too well know their worth. But I have frequently seen that men will do their own work rather than hire poor tools. I have heard of the boys, all are doing well. The Blue Noses lose no time in training them. They all milk cows, rake hay, and many of them mow very well. * * *

THE RECTORY, SPRINGFIELD, N.B., *Sept. 21, 1874.*

I was pleased to receive the last five boys you were good enough to send us. Instead of my list of applicants decreasing, I find it is increasing. Parties in St. John are anxious to get the boys, but I leave instructions with the Government agent to forward them to me. There are fewer temptations for them in the country. * * * If only a small per centage of the boys you send turn out well, your efforts are not fruitless, but when I say that only *two* are doubtful out of all you have sent, is there not great cause for encouragement? * * * How astonished you would be to see the boys who came the first year. P—, for instance, "stands well up," as the Yankees say. He does nearly all the outside work, and I am training him in the art of farming.

J. F. KARS, KING'S CO., N.B., *December, 1874.*

DEAR BROTHER,—I now feel it my duty once more to write to you, having received no answer from the last one I wrote you, to let you know what I am doing. I am still at my place and well. I like the country very well, it is a very nice place, every-

thing grows wild, strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, and a good many more kinds of berries all grow wild. I suppose you felt a little sorry when you heard of my going away, but it was all for my good. I thank the Master and the Committee for their kindness in sending me here, for I can do a great deal better here than what I could if I was in England. If you can save money or get over here anyhow, do come, you could get twice as good pay here as you could in England ; try and come, I should very much like to see you. Old winter is now beginning to set in, we have a considerable amount of snow on the ground now. The people are now riding about with their sledges and sleighs instead of wagons, The rivers round about are all mostly frozen up ready for skating. I can skate some. I live near to some of the school boys, one (A — E —) lives the next house to me. Please show this letter to the Master. If you can get the day of my birth and my age please send it, as I do not know. It is a much colder place in winter here than it is in England. Christmas will soon be here ; I should like to spend Christmas in the school for you have a better time than we do. * * * This is the place for the working boys, plenty of work for all of them, and plenty of food for them on buckwheat pancakes. It takes nine bushels of rough wheat to make a barrel of flour, and six bushels of smooth to make a barrel. It is a beautiful place here in the winter, I like it very much.

W. F. KARS, KING's Co., N.B., *July 12, 1874.*

Six of us boys met in Sunday School on the 12th July. There were F., C., D., C., O. and myself. All the boys has got good places and good masters, only we do not call them masters here you know, but bosses. Tell A. and D. this is the place to come to if they want to get on, but if such boys as B. comes out here they are no good, because the people won't have boys that won't work.

E. W. NEW GLASGOW, *October 15, 1874.*

DEAR SIR,—I now take the pleasure of writing a letter to you and all my kind friends in England, so that you may write me one when you get mine, and please to tell me all the news you can. Dear Sir, the only school boy I have seen since I left the school

was J. B. He was down at St. John's, in New Brunswick, and he found out my directions, and he wrote me a letter and told me that it took all he could do to pay his board bill, and he asked me if I could send him two or three dollars to help him out of that and I sent him four dollars and told him if he had no place I would be very glad of him to help me with my harvest. So he came, and I took my horse and wagon and I told J. C. I was to meet J. B. at where the stage came in at, so J. when he heard that he came with me. I tell you it was J. all over, and I was very glad to see him. Dear Sir, I like America very well, and I think I have made pretty well of it. I have 180 acres of beautiful land, and I gave £20 for a mowing machine last summer to mow my hay with. But as the saying is, I was pretty lucky, for I got all this with my wife. You know I did not hold out my cap for nothing when I held it out for her. Dear Sir, B. told me that S. went home again. Poor fellow, I should liked to have seen him. This is the country to give a poor fellow a chance. It is not what you are become of, and if you are not lazy and tells the truth, and keeps out of bad company, that is the fellow to get along here. What would I have been if I had stopped in England? I don't think I would have been what I am now—my own master, and if there is anybody I have to thank it is yourself and all the kind Committee.

W. & G. G.

EAST SHELBYNE, MASS., U.S.A.

November 26, 1874.

I often thought I was used hard when I was in the School, but I now think different, that it was for my welfare and interest, and that it was for my own good, and I should not have been what I am now if I had not been put in that School. I thank you for the kindness you have showed to me. Crops has been a failure here in consequence of dry weather, and that will make it pretty dear, and tobacco seems to be more of a failure every year since I have been here, the farmers gave up other crops, and go to raising that pested weed; but as long as it is raised, and as long as folks use it, but I am determined to keep away from such bad habits.

Extracts from the Industrial Schools' Act of 29th and 30th Vict., cap cxviii., showing the class of children for whom the School is intended, the mode of their committal, and the provision for their maintenance :—

SEC. 14.—“ Any person may bring before Two Justices or a Magistrate any Child, of either sex, apparently under the Age of Fourteen Years, that comes within any of the following Descriptions, namely,—

“ That is found begging or receiving Alms (whether actually or under the pretext of selling or offering for Sale any Thing), or being in any Street or Public Place for the purpose of so begging or receiving Alms ;

“ That is found wandering and not having any Home or settled place of Abode, or proper Guardianship, or Visible Means of Subsistence ;

“ That is found destitute, either being an Orphan or having a surviving Parent who is undergoing Penal Servitude or Imprisonment ;

“ That frequents the Company of reputed Thieves ;

“ The Justices or Magistrate before whom a Child is brought as coming within One of those Descriptions, if satisfied on Inquiry of that Fact, and that it is expedient to deal with him under this Act, may order him to be sent to a Certified Industrial School.”

15.—“ Where a Child apparently under the Age of Twelve Years is charged before Two Justices or a Magistrate with an Offence punishable by Imprisonment or a less Punishment, but has not been in *England* convicted of Felony, or in *Scotland* of Theft, and the Child ought, in the opinion of the Justices or Magistrate (regard being had to his age and to the Circumstances of the case) to be dealt with under this Act, the Justices or Magistrates may order him to be sent to a Certified Industrial School.”

16.—“Where the Parent or Step-parent or Guardian of a Child apparently under the age of Fourteen Years represents to Two Justices or a Magistrate that he is unable to control the Child, and that he desires that the Child be sent to an Industrial School under this Act, the Justices or Magistrate, if satisfied on Inquiry that it is expedient to deal with the Child under this Act, may order him to be sent to a Certified Industrial School.”

“SEC 17 provides that refractory children in Workhouses, Pauper Schools, &c., if under 14 years old, may be sent to Certified Industrial Schools.

“SEC. 18 refers to the order of detention to be made by the committing Justices, and concludes,—

“The Order shall specify the Time for which the Child is to be detained in the School, being such time as to the Justices or Magistrate seem proper for the teaching and training of the Child, but not in any case extending beyond the time when the Child will attain the Age of Sixteen Years.”

With respect to the maintenance of such Children, the following is quoted :—

35.—“The Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may from Time to Time contribute, out of money provided by Parliament for the Purpose, such sums as the Secretary of State from Time to Time thinks fit to recommend towards the Custody and Maintenance of Children detained in Certified Industrial Schools; provided that such contributions shall not exceed Two Shillings *per Head per Week* for Children detained on the Application of their Parents, Step-parents, or Guardian.”

37.—“The Guardians of the Poor of a Union or Parish, or the Board of Management of a District Pauper School, or the Parochial Board of a Parish or Combination, may from Time to Time, with the Consent in *England* of the Poor Law Board, and in *Scotland* of the Board of Supervision, contribute such Sums as they think fit towards the Maintenance of Children detained in a Certified Industrial School on their Application.”

"SECS. 39 and 40 empower the Justices, on the application of the Inspector of Industrial Schools, to make and to enforce orders of contribution by parents towards the maintenance of their children, such payments to go in relief of the Treasury charges.

The following Sections of the "Elementary Education Act, 1870," show the powers given to School Boards with regard to Certified Industrial Schools:—

SEC. 27.—"A School Board shall have the same powers of contributing money in the case of an Industrial School as is given to a Prison Authority by Section 12 of 'The Industrial Schools' Act, 1866,' and upon the election of a School Board in a Borough the Council of that Borough shall cease to have power to contribute under that Section."

SEC. 20.—"A School Board may, with the consent of the Education Department, establish, build, and maintain a Certified Industrial School within the meaning of 'The Industrial Schools' Act, 1866,' and shall, for that purpose, have the same powers as they have for the purpose of providing sufficient School accommodation for their district: Provided that the School Board, so far as regards any such Industrial School, shall be subject to the jurisdiction of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State in the same manner as the Managers of any other Industrial School are subject, and such School shall be subject to the provisions of the said Act, and not of this Act."

TIME TABLE.**WEEK-DAYS.**

6. 0 a.m.	Rise, and prepare for school.
6.30 " "	School instruction for senior boys. Industrial work for junior boys.
7.45 "	Morning prayers and singing.
8. 0 "	Breakfast and play.
8.35 "	Gymnastics and drill.
9. 0 " —10. 0 a.m.	Industrial work for all.
10. 0 a.m.—12.45 noon	School instruction for junior boys.
" " "	Industrial work for senior boys.
1. 0 p.m.—2. 0 p.m.	Dinner and play.
2. 0 " —3. 0 " "	Industrial work.
3. 0 " —4. 0 " "	Tea and play.
4. 0 " —5. 0 " "	School Instruction for all.
5. 0 " "	Evening prayers—retire to rest.

No work after 1.0 p.m. on Saturday, the afternoon being occupied by a country walk.

SUNDAY.

Meal-times as in the week. Attendance at morning service at St. Michael's Church. The afternoon is occupied with quiet reading and recreation, and occasionally with visits from friends. After tea, Biblical instruction, hymns, singing, &c.

DIETARY TABLE.

BREAKFAST—

SUNDAY.	$\begin{cases} 6 \text{ to } 8 \text{ oz. bread.} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 1 \text{ pint cocoa.} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 1 \text{ pint porridge.} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 1 \text{ oz. treacle.} \\ 3 \text{ oz. bread.} \end{cases}$
WEEK DAYS.	$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } \frac{1}{4} \text{ oz. butter, or} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } \frac{1}{4} \text{ oz. treacle.} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 1 \text{ pint cocoa or coffee.} \end{cases}$

SUPPER—

	$\begin{cases} 6 \text{ to } 8 \text{ oz. bread.} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ oz. butter, or} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } \frac{1}{4} \text{ oz. treacle.} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 1 \text{ pint cocoa or coffee.} \end{cases}$
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DINNER—

SUNDAY.	$\begin{cases} 4 \text{ to } 6 \text{ oz. meat (fresh).} \\ 12 \text{ to } 16 \text{ oz. vegetables.} \end{cases}$
MONDAY.	$\begin{cases} 1 \text{ to } 1\frac{1}{2} \text{ pints pea soup.} \\ 3 \text{ to } 4 \text{ oz. bread.} \end{cases}$
TUESDAY.	$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 1 \text{ lb. rice pudding and milk.} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 1 \text{ oz. treacle.} \end{cases}$
WEDNESDAY.	$\begin{cases} 1 \text{ to } 1\frac{1}{2} \text{ pints stew, with meat.} \\ 3 \text{ to } 4 \text{ oz. bread.} \end{cases}$
THURSDAY.	$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 1 \text{ lb. suet pudding.} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 1 \text{ oz. treacle.} \end{cases}$
FRIDAY.	$\begin{cases} 1 \text{ to } 1\frac{1}{2} \text{ pints pea soup.} \\ 3 \text{ to } 4 \text{ oz. bread.} \end{cases}$
SATURDAY.	$\begin{cases} 6 \text{ to } 8 \text{ oz. bread.} \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 1 \text{ oz. cheese.} \end{cases}$

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